## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A variant of Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae surface protective antigen SpaA protein or of a shortened form of SpaA ( $\Delta$ SpaA) in which a portion of SpaA protein is deleted for protection from Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae infection and a process for preparing the same are provided. Introduction of amino acid substitution at a specific site in the amino acid sequence of SpaA or  $\Delta$ SpaA protein provides a variant of SpaA or  $\Delta$ SpaA protein which is immunogenic and is expressed in E. coli as inclusion bodies. The variant of SpaA or  $\Delta$ SpaA protein of the present invention may easily be recovered and purified since it is expressed in E. coli as inclusion bodies.